

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1 – 8 (withdrawn)

Claim 9. (original) - An apparatus for treating cellulose materials with a preservative and a fluid in a mixture, comprising a work tank for holding the fluid and the preservative in a predetermined concentration, a pump in selective fluid communication with said work tank for drawing the mixed fluid and preservative from said work tank, a pressure vessel for accommodating the cellulose material, said pressure vessel being in communication with said work tank through said pump, a pressure relief valve in communication with said pressure vessel and said work tank to enable said mixed fluid and preservative to return to said work tank in response to said pump, and means for replenishing said returned fluid and preservative with more of the preservative, whereby said pump circulates said replenished mixed fluid and preservative to said pressure vessel.

Claim 10. (original) - An apparatus according to Claim 9, further comprising a heater for heating the fluid and the preservative in said work tank to a predetermined temperature.

Claim 11. (original) - An apparatus according to Claim 9, further comprising a vacuum pump in fluid communication with said pressure vessel to draw selectively a vacuum within said pressure vessel.

Claim 12. (original) - An apparatus according to Claim 9 further comprising a discharge pump for selectively withdrawing the fluid and preservative from said pressure vessel and returning the fluid and preservative to said work tank.

Claims 13 and 14 (withdrawn)